

## **RE Spring Newsletter 2022**

Welcome back, we hope you had a good and restful Christmas break. If you need any help or advice please contact the RE Adviser, Amanda Fitton. Contact details below.

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### **Religious Education and Collective Worship and the Right to withdraw**

We would like to remind schools that all parents have the right to withdraw their children from religious education and/or collective worship, this can be all of or specific parts of religious education. From the age of 16, pupils can choose for themselves to opt out of collective worship if they wish. However, they cannot opt out of receiving religious education without parental consent until they are 18. These requests stand until the parent requests otherwise.

#### **What happens to the pupil if he/she is withdrawn from Religious Education and/or Collective Worship?**

If pupils are withdrawn from religious education and/or collective worship, schools have a duty to supervise them, though not to provide additional teaching or to incur extra costs. Parents can insist that the pupil does not stay in the RE lesson and therefore the school will have to provide another place for the pupil to go.

If a pupil is withdrawn and alternative arrangements cannot be made for the type of RE the parents' desire, for example, due to resources/timetabling etc, it is the parents' responsibility to provide materials for their child which have clear outcomes and are connected to the faith/philosophy/world view of the parents.

## **RE and Ofsted**

In May 2021 Ofsted published its report into Religious Education as part of its 'Research Review series'. The report explored different factors behind what was being taught in English schools from Reception through to KS5 and how this relates to Ofsted's Education Inspection framework (EIF). The report is comprehensive and very informative on what Ofsted consider RE should look like in our schools and how it should be approached. For those involved in RE it is good news and shows the importance of RE as part of the core curriculum and as an academic subject.

It is really important that all teachers read the report, absorb what has been said and begin to look at what is being advised compared to what is being taught in your school. As Ofsted states

*'Its purpose is to identify factors that contribute to high-quality school RE curriculums, the teaching of the curriculum, assessment and systems. We will use this understanding of subject quality to examine how RE is taught in England's schools where RE falls under Ofsted's inspection remit.'* Ofsted May 2021

All schools should note that a second report will be published next spring on the quality of the RE curriculum taught in schools and Ofsted will gather evidence for this through subject 'deep dives' during inspections under the EIF.

[Research review series: religious education - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/research-review-series/religious-education)

## **Become part of SACRE**

SACRE is the local authority body that agrees what should be taught in RE in the local area. It is made up of different committees from different faith communities, local authority councillors and from all schools. We do have vacancies for teachers to sit on SACRE and so be involved in what RE is taught. Being a member involves three meetings over the academic year and some other activities if time allows. If you would like further information please contact Laura Corcoran [laura.corcoran@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:laura.corcoran@peterborough.gov.uk) (Peterborough and Cambridgeshire) or Stacey-Anne Potter [SAPotter@rutland.gov.uk](mailto:SAPotter@rutland.gov.uk) (Rutland)

## **RE Training courses**

This term's training courses will be held virtually via Zoom from 3.30pm until 5.00pm. The courses this term are:

Tuesday 1st March 2022-Creative Approaches to RE - This session will consider different creative approaches to RE that extend and challenge learners across different key stages. There will be an opportunity to explore a range of resources that allow for creative and effective RE to be taught that will also excite and challenge learners. Particular reference will be made to AT2 and exploring this element of RE in a meaningful and inclusive approach.

Over the next academic year we are running a series of virtual courses to help build knowledge and understanding of the six major world faiths and Humanism. The next ones are as follows:

Tuesday 25th January 2022 —The basics of Islam and Sikhism—3.30pm to 5.00pm via Zoom

Thursday 10th March 2022—The basics of Hinduism and Buddhism—3.30pm to 5.00pm

To book please follow the link — [Booking and reservations for Religious Education Service \(bookingbug.com\)](https://customer.jrni.com/?client=cambridgeshire&environment=religiouseducationservice#/events) or <https://customer.jrni.com/?client=cambridgeshire&environment=religiouseducationservice#/events>

## **Network meetings**

We will be holding Network meetings again this term but we are unsure if they will be face to face or via Zoom. There will be a theme for each meeting and this term's will be announced nearer the dates. The dates are; Thursday 24th March 2022 and Tuesday 29th March 2022 - 3.45pm to 4.45pm

To book a place please go to

[Booking and reservations for Religious Education Service \(bookingbug.com\)](https://customer.jrni.com/?client=cambridgeshire&environment=religiouseducationservice#/events) or <https://customer.jrni.com/?client=cambridgeshire&environment=religiouseducationservice#/events>

## **Religious Education Facebook and twitter**

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough SACRE and RE now have information available on both Twitter and Facebook. You will find information on forthcoming courses and network meetings and relevant and useful resources to use in the classroom.

Please find links below to both accounts.

Follow SACRE on:

Twitter [@cambsreservice](https://twitter.com/cambsreservice)

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Cambridgeshire-Peterborough-SACRE>

## **RE and World Views**

Over the past few years there has been a 'conversation' running over the approach to RE and how to approach the World views as part of RE. This is not an easy topic to summarise as the RE world has yet to come to a clear definition. Our advice is to read around the subject and links have been included below.

[Exploring Worldviews - REC Discussion Papers | The Religious Education Council of England and Wales %](#)

[Layout 1 \(commissiononre.org.uk\)](#)

[NATRE Report on the provision for RE -SWF for SOTN 2017 final4 130917.pdf](#)

## **Agreed Syllabus 2023-2028**

The current agreed syllabus runs until September 2023 but it has been decided that the process of updating or rewriting the syllabus for 2023-2028 should begin in the coming months. If any one involved in RE in any of our schools wishes to be involved or has ideas they would like to put forward please contact Amanda Fitton (RE Adviser) at [amanda.fitton@cambridgeshire.go.uk](mailto:amanda.fitton@cambridgeshire.go.uk)

## **Books for Primary RE**

We often get asked for recommendations for books that can be used in Religious Education lessons. A list has been compiled and includes other links to support particular books. If you would like a copy of this list please email Amanda Fitton [amanda.fitton@cambridgeshire.go.uk](mailto:amanda.fitton@cambridgeshire.go.uk)

## **Useful websites**

### **Resource websites for RE in the primary school**

Please find below a list of websites which are offering really good resources for RE or can be used to help develop home learning for Religious education.

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/articles/1pYRg2f202rqWHrp3ywhTyX/religions-of-the-world>

<http://cartoonchurch.com/content/cc/category/cartoons/>

<http://www.primaryresources.co.uk/re/re.htm>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/ks2-religious-studies/z6pbqp3>

<https://list25.com/25-creation-stories-from-around-the-world/>

<http://www.primaryhomeworkhelp.co.uk/religion/Islam.htm>

<http://www.museivaticani.va/content/museivaticani/en/collezioni/musei/cappella-sistina/tour-virtuale.html>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zcy87h>

[http://www.primaryresources.co.uk/re/pdfs/the\\_story\\_of\\_Mohammad.pdf](http://www.primaryresources.co.uk/re/pdfs/the_story_of_Mohammad.pdf)

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zvx6yrd>

<https://www.quaker.org.uk/about-quakers/quaker-journeys?fbclid=IwAR0YHdYoCGlyScSa02qcmYeBdIXRleIxmTbpARoLT5cXtHaKtj9JO27rDil>

<https://www.truetube.co.uk/>

[Virtual Tours for RE and SMSC - Cumbria Development Education Centre \(cdec.org.uk\)](#)

[Places of Worship \(reonline.org.uk\)](#)

## **Holocaust Memorial Day—27th January 2022**

It is Holocaust memorial day on the 27th January. Below are some websites with resources for schools that you may find useful for your school.

[Holocaust Memorial Day Trust \(hmd.org.uk\)](#)

[Holocaust Memorial Day 2022 / Primary / Historical Association \(history.org.uk\)](#)

[Holocaust Educational Trust - Latest News \(het.org.uk\)](#)